

Glue Down LVT Installation Instructions

Material Inspection

Inspect all material for correct pattern and color. Each plank/tile should be carefully inspected for any defects or damage prior to installing. Any material installed with a visible defect is not the responsibility of the manufacturer. Upon return of the material with a visible defect, replacement material will be provided but labour will not be covered.

Prior To Installation

Flooring materials must be allowed to acclimate at room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation. The HVAC system must be in operation prior to flooring installation. The area in which the flooring is being installed must be maintained at 18°C – 29°C (64°F – 84°F) for 48 hours before, during, and after installation. At no point in the floor's life should it be exposed to temperatures below 13°C (55°F).

Avoid areas of direct sunlight through window/patio doors that could cause color fade or affect the bond to the subfloor.

Material can be installed above, on, or below grade. Suspended wood subfloors must have a minimum 18" well ventilated crawl space below. Suitable moisture barriers must be in place between the ground and suspended floor.

The subfloor must be flat with a maximum of 3mm (1/8") over 6ft or 4.75mm (3/16") over 10ft. Level the subfloor where necessary with suitable underlayment or leveling compound.

Failure to meet subfloor requirements will VOID all product warranties.

Installation of Glue Down LVT

- Always install planks with the arrows on the back pointing in the same direction.
- Work from a minimum of 3 cartons when installing to ensure a blend of pattern and color. Measure and lay out chalk lines to square off the room.
- Install parallel to the light source of the longest wall. Remember to be certain you do not have a piece narrower than 2" along an opposite wall.
- End joints must be a minimum of 6" apart. Allow for a minimum of 3/16" gap at all walls, cabinets, pipes, etc. This will allow for any movement. Ensure the plank/tile joints fall at least 6" from underlayment joints,
- Cascade XT360 is the recommended adhesive when installing this flooring.
- Fill all cracks/voids with a suitable Portland cement-based floor patch. A rough surface may telegraph through the finished floor.
- Rough surfaced concrete can be smoothed with a cementitious underlayment (such as Armstrong S-184/S-194).
- Dusty concrete slabs may be primed with a latex floor primer (such as Armstrong S-185).
- Follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions, paying close attention to correct trowel notching, open time of the adhesive, and amount of adhesive area spread at one time before installing. Measure, score with a sharp utility knife and snap. Continue to install planks, fitting them tightly and precisely in place.
- Once complete, roll in both directions with a 100lb roller.
- Do not allow traffic on the flooring for 24 hours after installation.
- Avoid rolling load traffic for 72 hours after installation.

- Follow the maintenance recommendations to ensure proper care and performance.

Note:

The responsibility for warranties and suitability of the concrete floor to receive resilient flooring lies solely with the manufacturer of the concrete/lightweight concrete and not with the flooring manufacturer.

*Bear in mind that moisture and PH tests only indicate the levels at the time of testing and cannot predict changes over the long term.

Subfloor and Underlayment

The suitability of a subfloor or underlayment lies with the flooring installer.

Wood Subfloor / Underlayment

A double layer subfloor/underlayment construction is required. Sturd-I-Floor panels also require an underlayment to adhere to. Total combined thickness should be a minimum of 1". This is for structural integrity and to prevent deflection in the subfloor, which in turn could cause patch/underlayment/leveler to fail. The wood underlayment must be a minimum of 1/4" thick – APA – approved plywood or equivalent poplar/birch plywood, flooring grade OSB, all of which have a fully sanded face and is recommended as flooring underlayment.

Suitable Substrates

APA rated Plywood – must be suitable for residential flooring (with a fully sanded face).

- Must be structurally sound.

- Must be free of any material that could stain vinyl or cause the adhesive bond to fail (inks, paint, solvent, asphalt, etc.)

APA OSB - must meet the CAN/CSA – 0325-07 standard. Any deficiencies such as cracks or gouges in the subfloor must be filled with a cementitious-patching compound before installation. Any telegraphing that occurs due to unevenness in the subfloor is not covered under warranty. Cascade XT360 is the recommended adhesive as it is compatible with OSB.

Install the underlayment panels in accordance with the underlayment manufacturer's recommendations and instructions. The responsibility for warranties and suitability of the underlayment lies solely with the underlayment manufacturer and not with the flooring manufacturer. We strongly recommend you contact the underlayment manufacturer to confirm these recommendations/warranties.

*Particle Board is not a suitable substrate for use with this product.

CONCRETE

- Concrete subfloors (new or existing) must meet ASTM – F710 Preparing Concrete Floors for Resilient Flooring (www.astm.org).

- New concrete must be cured for a minimum of 28 days prior to installation

- Concrete slab should have a minimum compression strength of 3500psi and must be protected from ground moisture with a vapor retarder as outlined in ASTM F710.

- The concrete must be clean, dry, and smooth. Any foreign substance which could stain or affect the adhesion bond must be removed (paint, old adhesive, etc.).
- * Moisture tests must be carried out using in-situ probes (RH test) as outlined in ASTM F2170 – and must not exceed 80% RH.
- The calcium chloride test indicates the moisture level in the surface of the concrete. It is only considered usable when combined with an RH test.
- The concrete surface must have a PH between 7-9 (ASTM F710). Bond tests must be carried out to ensure the adhesive used is compatible with the concrete slab.
- Lightweight concrete must have a minimum density of 90lbs/cubic ft. – cellular concrete with plastic (wet) densities over 100lbs/cubic ft. are acceptable.
- Glue Down LVT can be installed over radiant heat with a maximum allowable heat of 27°C (80°F). Heating system components must have a minimum ½” separation from the flooring. The heating system must be in operation for at least 3 weeks prior to installation. Heat should be turned off 48 hours prior to installation, during installation, and 48 hours following installation. 48 hours after installation is complete, the heat can be gradually increased in 5°F increments until it reaches the desired temperature.
- Curing, hardening, and sealing compounds can interfere with the adhesive bond. Any curing compounds with soap, silicone, wax or oil must be removed prior to installing resilient flooring. The suitability of other curing agents with resilient flooring lies with the concrete applicator and is not warranted by the flooring manufacturer.

Existing Flooring

- Do not install over cushioned flooring.
- Do not install over more than a single layer of flooring.
- Do not install over existing resilient flooring below grade.
- Heavy embossing and grout lines must be leveled with a suitable cementitious leveling compound.
- All old adhesive, residue, wax or polish must be removed before installing new flooring.
- Existing flooring must be fully bonded and in suitable condition to accept flooring adhesive.

The use of sound deadening underlayment is not recommended. We recommend you contact the underlayment manufacturer to determine if their product is suitable for this type of flooring. All flooring failures that occur when an underlayment is used are the responsibility of the underlayment manufacturer.